

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 2487

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served October 17, 1983

Application of LAWSON TRANSPORTA-)
TION CORPORATION for Special)
Authorization to Perform Charter)
Operations Pursuant to Contract --)
Close Up Foundation)

Case No. CP-83-14

By application filed October 11, 1983, Lawson Transportation Corporation (Lawson), seeks authorization to conduct charter operations pursuant to WMATC Special Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 1 under a contract with Close Up Foundation, transporting youth educational groups and their teachers between the Quality Inn-Pentagon City, Twin Bridges Marriott Hotel, Sheraton National Hotel and Quality Hotel Arlington, all located in Arlington, Virginia and Sheraton Inn Washington, located in Silver Spring, Md., and points in the Metropolitan District. 1/

The contract between Lawson and Close Up requires that up to three 46-passenger buses be provided for transportation service between November 6, 1983 and July 31, 1984. The following rate schedule would apply:

(a) ONE WAY TRANSFERS: (Per Bus)

Point to Point from the Quality Inn -- Pentagon City, Sheraton National Hotel, Twin Bridges Marriott Hotel, the Quality Inn Arlington Hotel, in Arlington, Va., and the Sheraton Inn Washington, Northwest, in Silver Spring, Md., to points within the Metropolitan District.	\$75.00
Return movements from within the Metropolitan District to any of the above named hotels	\$75.00

1/ Transportation solely within the Commonwealth of Virginia is not within this Commission's jurisdiction and shall not be considered a part of this application.

(b) NON-LECTURED TRANSPORTATION SERVICE: (Per Bus)

Twenty-Eight Dollars (\$28) per hour
with a minimum of four (4) hours.

(c) AIRPORT TRANSFERS: (Per Bus)

To or from the Quality Inn -- Pentagon
City, the Sheraton National Hotel,
Twin Bridges Marriott Hotel, the Quality
Inn Arlington Hotel, located in Arlington,
Va., and Sheraton Inn Washington, Northwest,
in Silver Spring, Md.:

Washington National Airport	
to Virginia <u>1/</u> and Washington, DC	
Hotels	\$ 80.00
to Maryland Hotels	90.00
Washington Dulles International Airport <u>1/</u>	105.00
Baltimore-Washington International	
Airport <u>2/</u>	125.00
Amtrak Station Alexandria <u>1/</u>	80.00
Washington Union Station	80.00

The Contract also contains a fuel-cost increase clause, but any new rates resulting therefrom would, of course, be subject to Commission approval.

Lawson operates eight vehicles with a seating capacity sufficient to meet the needs of Close Up. Three specific vehicles have been identified to be used for the transportation service herein and appropriate lease forms have been submitted with the application. The Commission will act on the forms as set forth in Commission Regulation No. 69. Applicant states that it is an established motor carrier of passengers operating pursuant to certificates issued by the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Virginia State Corporation Commission (SCC), and that the proposed service is feasible within the full scope of its present operations. Lawson's president further states that he is familiar with the terms of the Compact and the Commissions rules and regulations and will comply therewith.

While the carrier states that it has not been found unfit by any regulatory commission, it is the subject of a proceeding pending before the SCC regarding a possible lapse in insurance coverage for a period when the carrier was operating in intrastate commerce. We will

2/ Baltimore-Washington International Airport is beyond the Metropolitan District and thus shall not be considered a part of this application

direct Lawson to provide more information regarding this matter. The carrier will also be directed to supply a valid insurance certificate to this Commission.

Lawson's balance sheet, dated October 4, 1983, shows current assets of \$24,200, total assets of \$26,300, current liabilities of \$10,136 and equity of \$16,164. Its operating statement for the period January 1983 through September 1983 shows operating revenue of \$110,641, operating expenses of \$87,004, vehicle rental expense of \$18,000 and net carrier operating income of \$5,645.

Close Up's director of operations states that the Foundation is a non-profit educational entity which operates a multi-partisan government studies program in and around Washington, D. C., for high school students and their teachers. Close Up has been approved by the National Association of Secondary School Principals and various state and local education departments.

For its 1983-84 program, Close Up expects to bring over 17,000 students and teachers to Washington for 21 one-week programs. Total transportation requirements will involve as many as 30 buses a day. Close Up has investigated the qualifications of Lawson to handle a portion of its transportation requirements and is satisfied with applicant's ability properly to perform the proposed services.

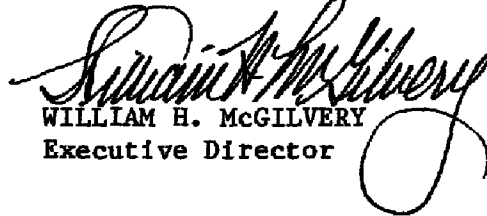
Inasmuch as there is a contract for the transportation of students by a school for a period in excess of 181 days, this application appears to be amenable to processing under Commission Regulation No. 70. See Order No. 2004, served June 20, 1979, and effective July 21, 1979. Pursuant to Commission Regulation No. 70-06, notice of this application must be published and opportunity given for the filing of protests. Protests, if any, must be written, sworn and notarized, and must contain all evidence and argument upon which the protestant would rely.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That Lawson Transportation Corporation publish once, in a newspaper of general circulation in the Metropolitan District, notice of this application in the form prescribed by the staff of the Commission no later than Wednesday, October 19, 1983.
2. That applicant shall file an affidavit of such publication and an appropriate certificate of insurance with the Commission no later than Wednesday, October 26, 1983.
3. That applicant shall file an affidavit regarding the disposition or status of the pending proceeding before the Virginia State Corporation Commission no later than Monday, October 31, 1983.

4. That any person desiring to protest this application shall file a notarized protest in conformance with Commission Regulation No. 70-06 at the office of the Commission, Suite 316, 1625 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006, no later than Monday October 31, 1983, and shall simultaneously serve a copy of such protest on counsel for applicant, John Ballenger, Esquire; Ballenger and Vogelmann, 123 South Royal Street, Alexandria, Va. 22314.

FOR THE COMMISSION:


WILLIAM H. MCGILVERY
Executive Director